

# Watauga Democrat.

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## WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

Playing the voters for suckers is a very old republican game, but it is to be played again this year, and, if it wins, in 1900. It is the regulation three card monte political trick. The republican administration, through its President and Secretary of the Treasury, is manipulating the cards so that in sections where some silver votes are necessary to win, the cards will show the republican party to be a great friend to bimetalism and many fairy stories will be told about what Mr. McKinley expects to accomplish for silver through international bimetalism, and in sections where the gold standard sentiment is held by a majority, the cards will show the republicans in their true colors—supporters of the single gold standard. To be forewarned is to be forearmed, and if any real friend of silver gets caught in this game, he will deserve to be caught.

Czar Reed cracked the party whip and compelled the republican majority of the House to stand up and count against the Teller resolution, declaring bonds to be payable at the option of the government. Reel is no dodger, whatever else he may be. He is for the gold standard and for gold bonds, and he simply compelled the House to endorse the payment of bonds in gold by defeating the Teller resolution although there are lots of republicans who would rather that he had killed the resolution by the pigeon-hole method. If many of the republicans of the House had dared to vote as they thought, there would have been enough of them with the solid democratic vote to have overthrown Reed's plan and adopted the Teller resolution.

Senator Chandler, who has been conspicuous in his championship of Mr. McKinley's bimetalism, has this to say of the latest attempt of the latter to carry gold on one shoulder and silver on the other: "The President is trying to satisfy the gold people and also prosecute international bimetalism, which is a very difficult thing for him to do, because the former are not in favor of any kind of bimetalism. So he declares in favor of paying the national debt in the best money in the world, in deference to the gold people, and refrains from saying that the best money in the world is gold, in order to avoid disturbing the bimetalists. It may be sagacious policy, but it will be difficult to pursue it much longer, if Secretary Gage and his assistants are to continue to declare, on every possible occasion, that international bimetalism is impossible, while the President maintains that he is prosecuting negotiations with other nations. The time will soon come for the explicit declaration as to whether Mr. Gage or the

President represents the republican party." Senator Chandler was the only eastern republican who voted for the Teller resolution, which was adopted by a vote of 47 to 32.

Those who have been black guarding Spain for trying to buy the friendship of the U. S., through trade concessions offered in the negotiations for a reciprocity treaty between the United States and Spain, to include the products of Cuba and Porto Rico, which are now under way, will doubtless be surprised to learn that the first step in these negotiations was taken by the United States Minister to Spain, under instructions from the Department of State, but such is the fact. Just why this administration should have gone out of its way to make such a practical demonstration of its friendliness towards Spain, each individual must determine for himself; but it seems to be all a part of the same deal with Spain which pacified Congress and the people for a time, by sending a U. S. warship to Havana.

The House by a vote of 188 to 67 passed the bill to pay \$288,000 to the Southern Methodist Book Publishing Company, for damages sustained by the Company during the war.

No Senator presents more unique arguments than Senator Tillman, of S. C., and his latest, on the silver question, was one of his best. He said, as he walked down the aisle: "Before 1873, we used to go on two legs. One leg was gold and the other leg was silver. Then we cut one leg off, but not content with that, we placed the cut off leg on our shoulder, and now we go hopping along on one leg with the other leg on our shoulder." The Senator illustrated his remarks by action and when he ended by hopping around on one leg, bending over with the imaginary burden on his shoulder, there was such a burst of laughter and applause that the Vice President had to sharply demand order.

The only democrat who voted against the Teller resolution, declaring U. S. bonds payable in silver at the Government's option, was Senator Caffery, of La.

The Lodge gold bond resolution having been defeated by a vote of 53 to 24 in the Senate, the gentlemen who have been paying board bills in Washington with the idea that legislation for gold bonds could be secured from this Congress have at last got their eyes open to facts known to most people from the first day of the session—the absolute impossibility of gold bond legislation.

Washington, Jan. 31.—Senator Mason, of Illinois, will introduce a resolution demanding peace with Cuba at any cost. It is high time to stop the horrors there enacted, he says. He will call upon the President to end the war "even if he is obliged to use force."

## SURGERY FOR CRIME.

Prof. Elmer Gates, of the Smithsonian Institution, after years of scientific investigation, declares that science will put an end to all crime, says the Pittsburg 'Dispatch.' This is the calm judgement of a deeply learned man, who has devoted his life to research. Prof. Gates announces, not as a possibility, but as a fact, that the murder in a man's brain can be removed by the surgeon's knife.

If a man is naturally a thief his brain can be cut and treated so that all desire to steal shall disappear. No matter what criminal tendency is developed, it can be cured.

It is not a question of building up will power, of fortifying moral sense. It is simply a question of surgical and medical science. The only difficulty—and it is one that exists in all diseases—is in tracing the trouble to its seat.

Prof. Gates explains the process scientifically with the employment of many technical words that are more or less confusing to laymen, but the principle is simply enough.

The brain is the directing power of the body. It does not act as a whole, because if it did a man could not do two things at once. He could not walk and think at the same time.

If it were divided up into compartments, for instance, cell No. 1 might rule the arm, cell No. 2 the eye, and so on.

If the relation between the eyes and cell No. 3 be established, and a means of keeping it under observation be found, it would be impossible to determine the influence of sight upon cell No. 3. It is very much the same with regard to the muscular system. If the part of the brain which direct the eye are diseased they will not act naturally. If the seat of disorder cured there will be no more trouble.

It is the same with thoughts and impressions, so Prof. Gates says. If a man is inclined to murder or steal, there is something wrong with his brain. If the diseased part can be definitely placed, it can be either cut out altogether or treated so as to become healthy, when the victim becomes a healthy man.

The results flowing from this are of supreme importance to the race. It will mean the doing away of all punitive measures. Capital punishment, prisons and penitentiaries will be banished from the world. There will be places of detention only, and hospitals.

When a person has committed a crime he will be placed in a jail until he can be examined by experts, who will determine the form of his disease and the cause, and trace it to the part of the brain which is affected. The brain will be laid bare and the malgrowth cut away; or, if it is discovered that the trouble is the result of decay of that part of the brain, it will be built up and made normal. Instead of sending a murderer to the hangman or to the electric chair, he is made well and normal. Instead of blotting out his life, he is made a good and useful citizen.

## The Wrong Hymn Book.

Sam was a good old colored minister of the Methodist church. One Sunday night he began the service by announcing hymn from a book which he held in his hand.

"Turn" said he, "to page 76—page 76 and sing, wide voice and de understanden," hymn on page 76.

"As I was goin' down our ally, I met a cullard gal named Sally."

"No, brederen I must have made a mistake; try hymn on page 67—turn to page 67. I'll read the first two lines of de hymn on page 67,

"Shoo, fly, don't bodder me; I b'long to Company D."

"Now, dat don't sound 'zactly right. I neuber heered such a hymn sung, in dis church. I b'lieve de Baptizz cullard brudder, who's a lo cust preacher, and who met me dis evening in de dark, stole my Meffdist hymn book and put his Baptizz hymn book in de place of it."—Ex.

## After Forty Years.

Washington Jan. 31.—After fighting his claim through successive administrations for forty years, William S. Grant has finally succeeded in getting his bill of \$77,989 from the government. President McKinley has signed the measure that passed both houses and Grant, who is now seventy-three years old, will be able to enjoy the comforts that money brings after suffering an abject poverty since the war.

In March 1862, Grant was a prosperous government contractor, furnishing supplies to western posts. Wag on train provisions worth about \$100,000 taken from him by the acting secretary of war, a southern sympathizer, who turned over the teams and stock to the Confederates. The government refused to pay for what it did not get. Grant has been suing for his money ever since.

## Smallpox All Around Us.

The vaccination of the people goes rapidly forward. A great number were vaccinated yesterday. The report that smallpox had already broken out here helped the thing along very much, though the report in each instance proved false and utterly without foundation.

It is learned though, beyond all question, that this disease has broken out in Virginia, and it now seems to be only a question when it will creep in on us, being now entirely surrendered.

A dispatch from Norfolk says: "Advices from Cedar Bluff, Va., state that smallpox is prevalent in the Toms Creek coal district, on the New River branch of the Norfolk and Western railway, and that some towns along the line are quarantining."—News and Observer.

Citizen: President Dole continues to declare that he did not come over to promote annexation and that it is beneath his dignity to talk about it. Perhaps then he just dropped in to meet Grover Cleveland.

From within a party there has not been for many a day so sharp a slap as Senator Wolcott gave the Republicans last Thursday during the discussion on Senator Teller's resolution:

"I understand the Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. Aldrich] to say he wished party discipline upon this side of the chamber was as strong as it is upon the other. I desire to say that I wish so too. I wish that the members of the Republican party on this side of the chamber would stand by the principles and tenets of the party, and not go off at the behests of an Indianapolis convention, who want to fasten the gold standard upon this country." [Manifestations of applause in the galleries.]

Senator Wolcott has not yet been tamed, and if the Republicans do not in some way discipline him he is certain to make them trouble.—Citizen.

Charlotte Observer: Charlotte is free of smallpox. The only remaining case in the vicinity is in the house of detention outside the city limits. It is almost too much to hope that there will be no further development of the infection—so many black and white people were in contact with William Jackson, who died Thursday.

"The very minute that the news is announced of the annexation of Hawaii one hundred families of my state will make preparations to leave for Honolulu with the intention of making their permanent homes on the islands," said T. J. Mackey of South Carolina to a Washington Post reporter.

One hundred and seven witnesses were summoned to appear in the court of common pleas at Ravenna, O., in the case wherein Mary Ellen Rogers sued Volney Rogers for divorce on the grounds that having lived with her 40 years he never took her anywhere, not even to church.—Ex.

Franklin Press: We have on our dead head list a number of men who have "Rev." prefixed to their names, and they belong to different denominations too, who persistently refuse to notice our reminders often sent them. Church members by the score in the same row. When they die we wonder where they have gone.

Smith—I was reading in the paper this morning about a Texas man who was struck by lightning while he was swearing. Remarkable occurrence, wasn't it?

Brown—O, I don't know. If lightning was to strike a Texas man when he wasn't swearing it would be much more remarkable.—Chicago Daily Times.

Mrs. Gladstone has just celebrated her 86th birthday. The elder of the two daughters of Sir Stephen Glynn, she was married to Mr. Gladstone on July 25, 1839. Her sister, Miss Mary Glynn, on the same day became the wife of Lord Lytton.—Ex.

Queen Victoria has eccentric tastes in the arrangement of her bed, according to the Whitehall Review. At Cimiez she uses two mattresses, the one with the springs on top.—Ex.

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